

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 53

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

COMMENDATIONS: Commends University of Louisiana Monroe president, Nick J. Bruno, on the occasion of his retirement

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend University of Louisiana Monroe president, Nick J. Bruno, on the occasion of
3 his retirement.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Bruno began his tenure as the eighth president of the University of
5 Louisiana Monroe (ULM) on November 8, 2010; prior to his appointment as president, he
6 served ULM as the associate vice president for business affairs and vice president for
7 business affairs and served as vice president for business and finance for the University of
8 Louisiana System for five years; and

9 WHEREAS, as president, Dr. Bruno envisioned expansion of the university beyond
10 the geographic confines of northeast Louisiana, and he set out to build a dynamic research
11 institution, providing degree programs in the high-paying, high-demand fields of science,
12 technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Bruno consolidated the university into four colleges in 2016,
14 thereby centralizing the university's various programs under deans who are dedicated to the
15 enhancement of these fields; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2016, under Dr. Bruno's leadership, ULM was classified as a
17 Carnegie R3 Doctoral University and recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a Best
18 National University; these were both first-time achievements for the university; and

19 WHEREAS, perhaps President Bruno's most significant achievement was securing
20 a partnership with the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine to build a medical
21 school on the ULM campus, which will welcome its first class of students in 2020; and

1 WHEREAS, facilities projects during his presidency included a \$5 million
2 renovation to Brown Stadium and Groseclose Track, the installation of a \$3 million Doppler
3 radar weather system, and the renovation of Sandel Hall into the first one-stop student center
4 and academic building in Louisiana; and

5 WHEREAS, beyond his extensive contributions to the university, Dr. Bruno also
6 found time to contribute to the larger community by serving on the boards of various civic,
7 governmental, and private organizations, a few of which were the West Monroe-West
8 Ouachita Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, and the St. Francis
9 Medical Center; in February 2020, Dr. Bruno received the highest honor awarded by the
10 Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the Rabin-Silverstein Memorial Civic Award, which
11 recognizes a resident of northeast Louisiana who has demonstrated achievement, leadership,
12 and service for the benefit of the greater community; and

13 WHEREAS, at the end of his illustrious career in higher education, President Bruno
14 gracefully led ULM during the COVID-19 crisis, which serves as a reminder of his
15 commitment and dedication to both the university and the northeast Louisiana community;
16 such commitment and dedication is most deserving of recognition.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend University of Louisiana Monroe president,
19 Nick J. Bruno, on the occasion of his retirement; does hereby express genuine appreciation
20 to Dr. Bruno for his commitment to the advancement of the University of Louisiana Monroe
21 and of northeast Louisiana; and does hereby extend sincere hopes and wishes for Dr. Bruno's
22 success and happiness as he embarks on a new journey in his retirement.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
24 President Nick J. Bruno.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 53 Original

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